

zenescope

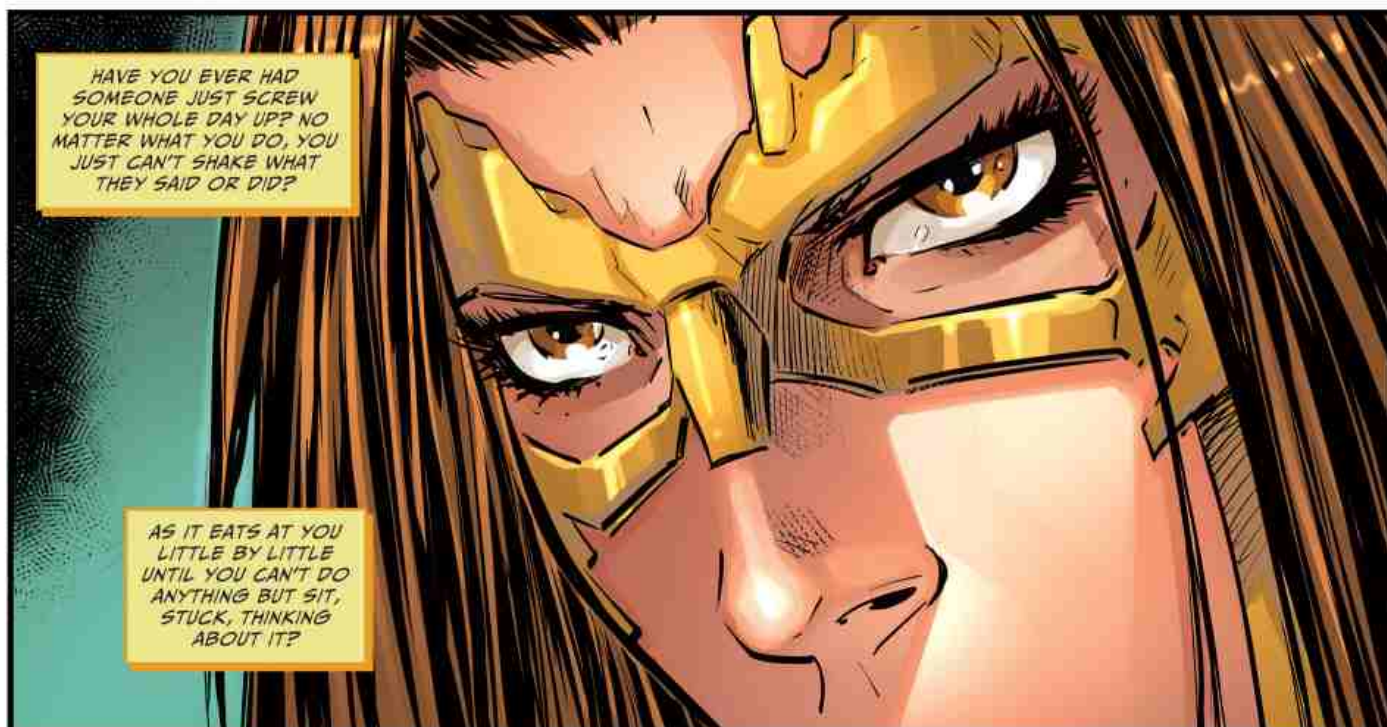
6

FRANCHINI
MARIANI
RODRIGUEZ
HATHAWAY

BELLE



OATH OF
THORNS



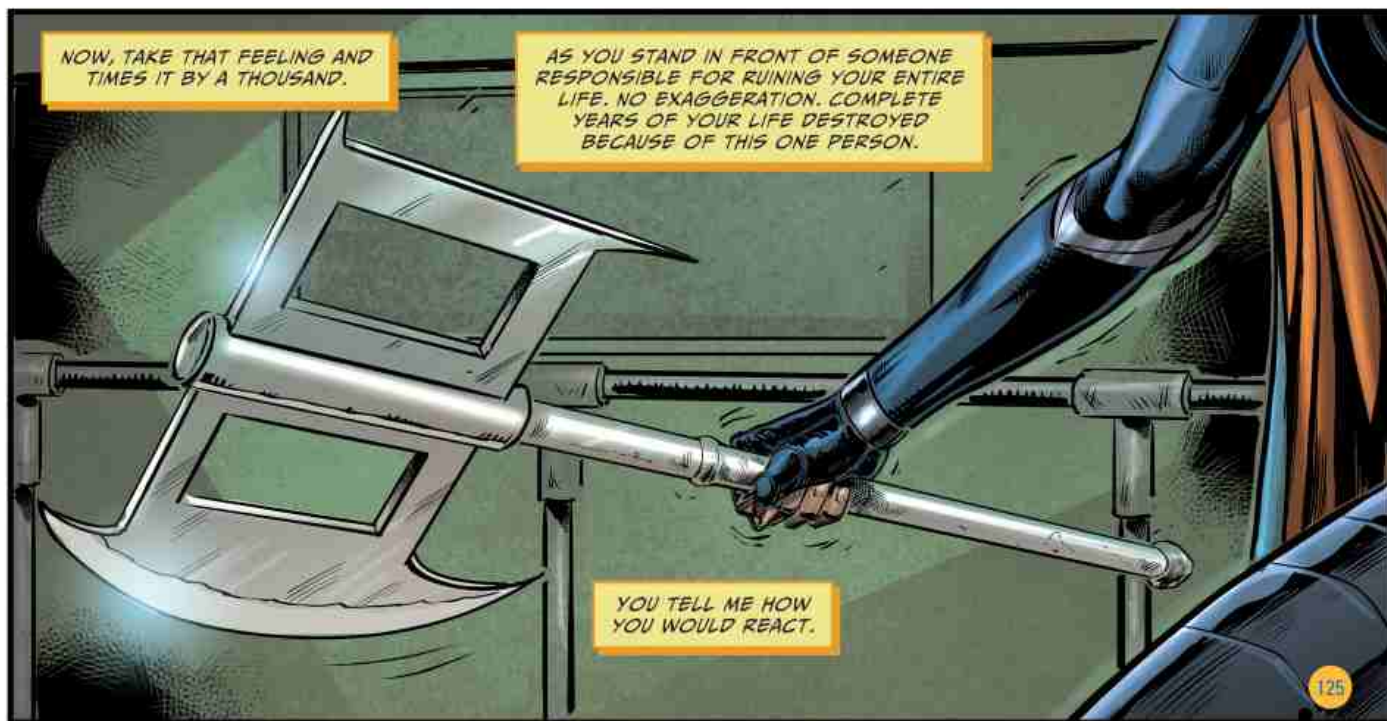
HAVE YOU EVER HAD
SOMEONE JUST SCREW
YOUR WHOLE DAY UP? NO
MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU
JUST CAN'T SHAKE WHAT
THEY SAID OR DID?

AS IT EATS AT YOU
LITTLE BY LITTLE
UNTIL YOU CAN'T DO
ANYTHING BUT SIT,
STUCK, THINKING
ABOUT IT?



NOP MAYBE IT'S
JUST ME, BUT
THINGS LIKE
THAT GET TO ME
AND RUIN ME
FOR HOURS.

I HATE IT. I FEEL LIKE
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING
ABOUT IT AS IT
SLOWLY FESTERS AND
BOILS INTO AN ANGER
THAT JUST POURS OUT
OF ME, AND I
SOMETIMES FIND IT
HARD TO CONTROL.



NOW, TAKE THAT FEELING AND
TIMES IT BY A THOUSAND.

AS YOU STAND IN FRONT OF SOMEONE
RESPONSIBLE FOR RUINING YOUR ENTIRE
LIFE. NO EXAGGERATION. COMPLETE
YEARS OF YOUR LIFE DESTROYED
BECAUSE OF THIS ONE PERSON.

YOU TELL ME HOW
YOU WOULD REACT.



YOU TELL ME HOW YOU WOULD HANDLE IT AS THEIR NEGATIVITY SPREAD IN YOUR LIFE, AND THEN TO EVERYONE YOU KNEW, PERSON TO PERSON, LIKE THE WAVE AT A BASEBALL GAME UNTIL IT FINALLY FINDS ITS WAY BACK YOU.

AND IN LIFE, IT ALWAYS FINDS ITS WAY BACK TO YOU.



SO YEAH, YOU EVER HAVE SOMEONE SCREW UP YOUR WHOLE DAY AND DECIDE, YOU KNOW WHAT, LET'S SHOVE THAT SHIT BACK IN THEIR FACE.





I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE WHAT SHE DID TO HERSELF, BUT I'M GUESSING IT'S NOT GOOD NEWS FOR ME.

OTTS, YOU LOOK EXTRA LOVELY TODAY. NEW HAIRCUT?

MS. DIMARCO, ALWAYS WITH YOUR JOKES.



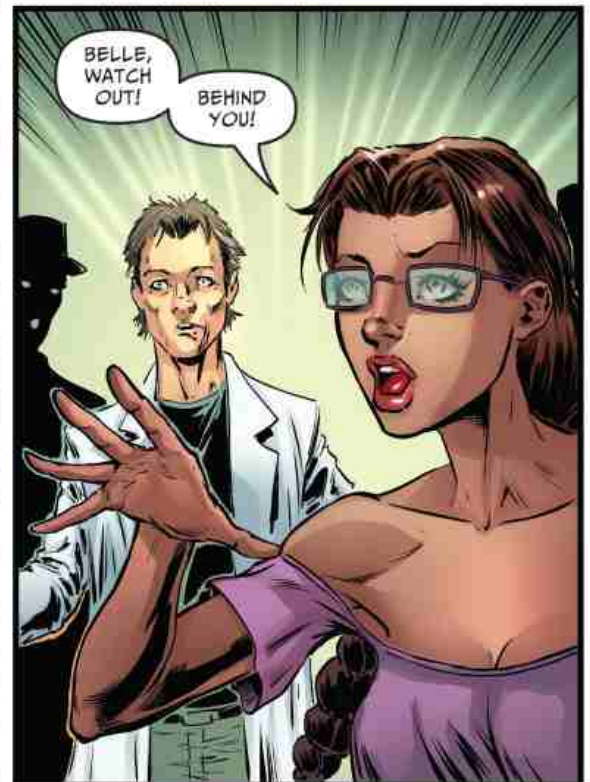
DAMN, SHE'S FAST!

I GROW TIRED OF THEM. LUCKILY, THEY WILL END TODAY.

I KNEW YOU WERE PRETENDING TO LAUGH, BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE THIS TWO-FACED.

WHAT, YOU DIDN'T HAVE YOUR COFFEE YET?

I DON'T REALLY GET A WHOLE LOT OF GOOD NEWS THESE DAYS.



BELLE, WATCH OUT!

BEHIND YOU!



I TAKE THAT BACK. THANKS, MEL.

KRINK

AT LEAST I KNOW HER AND CANDLESTICK ARE ALIVE.



RIP THEM APART.



NO!

NO. SHE'S NOT TAKING
THEM FROM ME TOO.



WHERE
DO YOU THINK
YOU GUYS ARE
GOING?



GRAAWWR

TNG



OH, COME ON!

THIS IS
NOT GO--



KOOM!

--UHH!





...UH...THAT...THAT
HURT... CAN'T...

...CAN'T THINK...
STRAIGHT.

WHAT,
NOTHING SMART
TO SAY?



UH...I REALLY
HATE HER.

FINALLY, NO
MORE OF YOUR
RAMBLING ON.

I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
THIS DAY.



YOU'VE
LOST, BEAST
HUNTER.

SHE'S RIGHT.
I FAILED.



YOUR FAMILY
WILL DIE FIRST, AS
YOU WATCH.

I FAILED
THEM.



...I'M...I'M
SORRY.



NO.
DON'T GIVE
UP.

YOU
GOT
THIS.





LOOKS LIKE I
WASN'T THE
ONLY PARTY
CRASHER.

IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE.



IT HAS,
JOSEPH.

I'M
GLAD YOU
COULD BE HERE
FOR THIS.



YOUR SHIP IS
SURROUNDED,
PATRICIA.

MY MEN HAVE
ORDERS TO DESTROY IT
IF THEY DON'T HEAR
FROM ME IN TWENTY
MINUTES.

SURRENDER
NOW AND SAVE
THE LIVES OF YOU
AND YOUR MEN.



NO.



UH-OH. I KNOW
THAT SMILE.



WHAT
DO YOU MEAN
NO?

DIDN'T YOU
HEAR WHAT I SAID?
YOU LOST.

THIS IS NOT
GOOD.



HAVE
FUN, MEN.
TEAR THEM
APART, BUT
SAVE JOSEPH
FOR ME.

I WANT TO
PEEL HIS FACE OFF
MYSELF.

YEAH. NOT GOOD AT ALL.









MEL'S RIGHT. THIS PLAN IS INSANE, BUT IT'S THE ONLY ONE I HAVE.

ALEX IS MY FAMILY, AND I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR FAMILY.



NO MATTER WHAT.



EVEN IF IT CURSES HIM FOREVER TO BE ONE OF THESE THINGS.



AT LEAST HE'LL BE ALIVE.



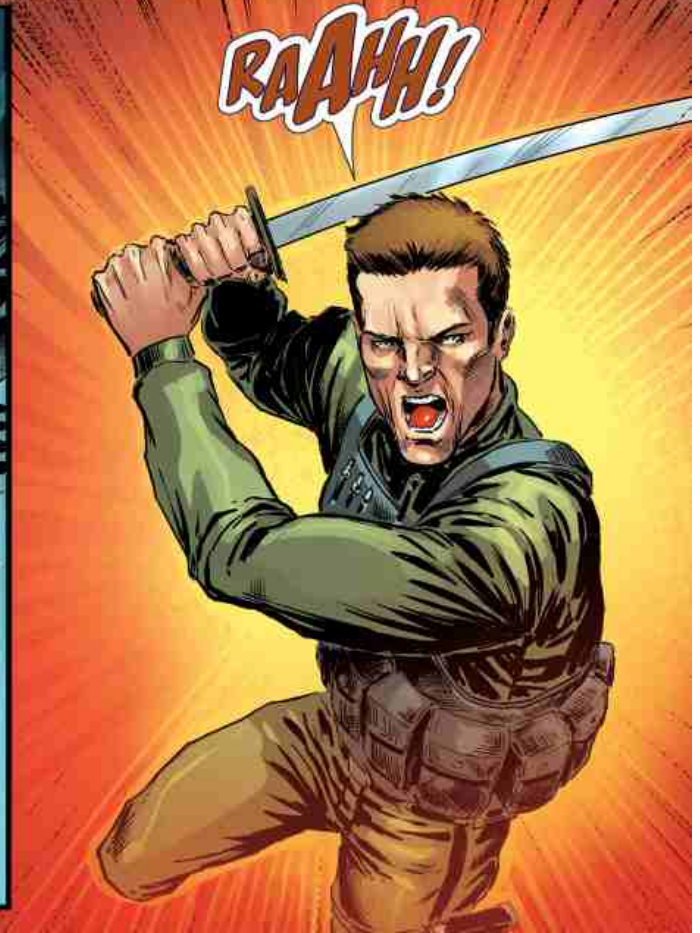
AND MAYBE, JUST MAYBE...



...THERE'S A CHANCE TO SAVE THE MAN INSIDE.

NO!

DAD!





OH, SH--!



WZSSHH

WELL, THAT WAS UNEXPECTED.
BUT APPRECIATED.



...THANKS. I
GUESS WE'RE
EVEN.

ANABELLE,
I WISH WE COULD
BE EVEN.

I KNOW WHAT
I HAVE DONE TO YOUR LIFE
IS UNFORGIVABLE. I JUST
HOPE WHEN WE GET OUT OF
HERE THAT YOU CAN...WE
CAN...I'M SORRY.

I
KNOW,
DAD.

No...



NO!!!

SKRCH



DIMARCO!
YOU WILL NOT
RUIN WHAT I
HAVE WORKED SO
HARD FOR!

THAT
DOESN'T SOUND
GOOD.

YEAH, SHE
LOOKS SUPER
PISSED.

SO THIS
PLAN OF
YOURS?



UHM, I
WOULDN'T
CALL IT A
PLAN, BUT
MORE OF A
HUNCH.

I'M PRETTY SURE
SHE CAN'T GET HER HANDS ON THIS
ARTIFACT AGAIN OR SHE COULD
ABSORB MORE OF THE CURSE, WHICH
WOULD PROBABLY BE BAD
NEWS FOR US.

ANABELLE, I
LOVE THAT YOU'RE JUST LIKE
YOUR MOM, BUT YOU NEED TO
STOP TALKING AND RUN.

BUT,
DAD, WHAT
ABOUT--

RUN!

I'LL
DO WHAT
I CAN
HERE.



OKAY, SO THIS PLAN MIGHT HAVE JUST WENT FROM INSANE TO SUICIDAL.

I NEED TO KEEP THIS THING AS FAR AWAY FROM OTTS AS POSSIBLE, WHICH IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE.

ESPECIALLY SINCE I NEED HER PART OF THE CURSE, AND THAT INVOLVES TAKING HER HEAD OFF.

AND I'M GUESSING SHE WON'T GIVE THAT UP VOLUNTARILY.

OH...SO THIS WAS WHAT ALL THAT NOISE AND QUAKING WAS ABOUT EARLIER.



DAD WASN'T MESSING AROUND. I JUST NEED TO KEEP... WHOA!



YEAH...WE'RE GOING TO NEED A NEW PLAN HERE.



ANABELLE, YOU ARE ONLY MAKING ME ANGRIER AND THIS HARDER ON YOURSELF.

AND PREFERABLY SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.





MOVE, MOVE!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT
OF HERE!

THE SHIP IS
GOING DOWN! WE HAVE TO
LEAVE NOW!



MEL, THIS
ISN'T GOOD. WE
ARE RUNNING OUT
OF TIME.

NO, DON'T
EVEN THINK LIKE THAT.
SHE'S GOING TO MAKE IT.
IT'S BELLE, SHE DOESN'T
KNOW HOW TO QUIT.



I KNOW, AND I
WANT TO BELIEVE THAT TOO,
BUT WE NEED TO BE READY
TO GO REGARDLESS. SHE
WOULD UNDERSTAND. SHE
WOULD WANT EVERYONE
SAFE.

YEAH,
YOU'RE
RIGHT...



...OH, NO...
EVERYONE.

WHAT?
WHAT IS
IT?



I'LL
BE RIGHT
BACK.

WHAT? YOU
CAN'T LEAVE. WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?



"I HAVE TO SAVE A FRIEND."

I KNOW YOU ARE IN HERE, MS. DIMARCO.

GREAT. SO THIS IS IT.



YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY--UFH!

GET OUT OF MY WAY!



I KNOW YOU ARE HIDING IN HERE. THERE ISN'T ANYWHERE TO GO. THIS ROOM IS A DEAD-END.

SHE'S RIGHT. THIS IS THE END.



I JUST HOPE MEL AND THE OTHERS ALREADY LEFT. THAT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT RIGHT NOW.

PLEASE, PLEASE BE OKAY.



THOUGH, TRUTHFULLY I KNOW THEY HAVEN'T.

I'M TIRED OF THESE GAMES.

NOW, COME OUT!



I CAN'T BLAME THEM.

THERE YOU ARE!

I COULDN'T FORGET YOU, HERSHEY.

I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LEAVE ANY OF THEM BEHIND EITHER.



I SMELL
YOUR FEAR,
DIMARCO.

SNF
SNF

THAT'S WHY I NEED TO KILL
HER AND END THIS HERE.



I CAN'T LET HER HURT MY FAMILY
ANY MORE THAN SHE HAS.

AND I
WILL TELL YOU,
THAT YOU
SHOULD BE
WORRIED.

KONCH

I JUST NEED TIME TO
COME UP WITH A PLAN.



GOOD THING SHE HASN'T
LOOKED UP HERE YET.

WHEN
I FIND
YOU...

WISSHH



...I'M
GOING TO
MAKE IT VERY
PAINFUL.

BUT IT'S ONLY A
MATTER OF TIME.



SO THINK OF SOMETHING.
ANYTHING. THINK--

OH,
WHAT THE
FU--

WISSHH

HELLO,
DEAR.

KAT
THNK

SHIT! THIS IS
GOING TO HURT.

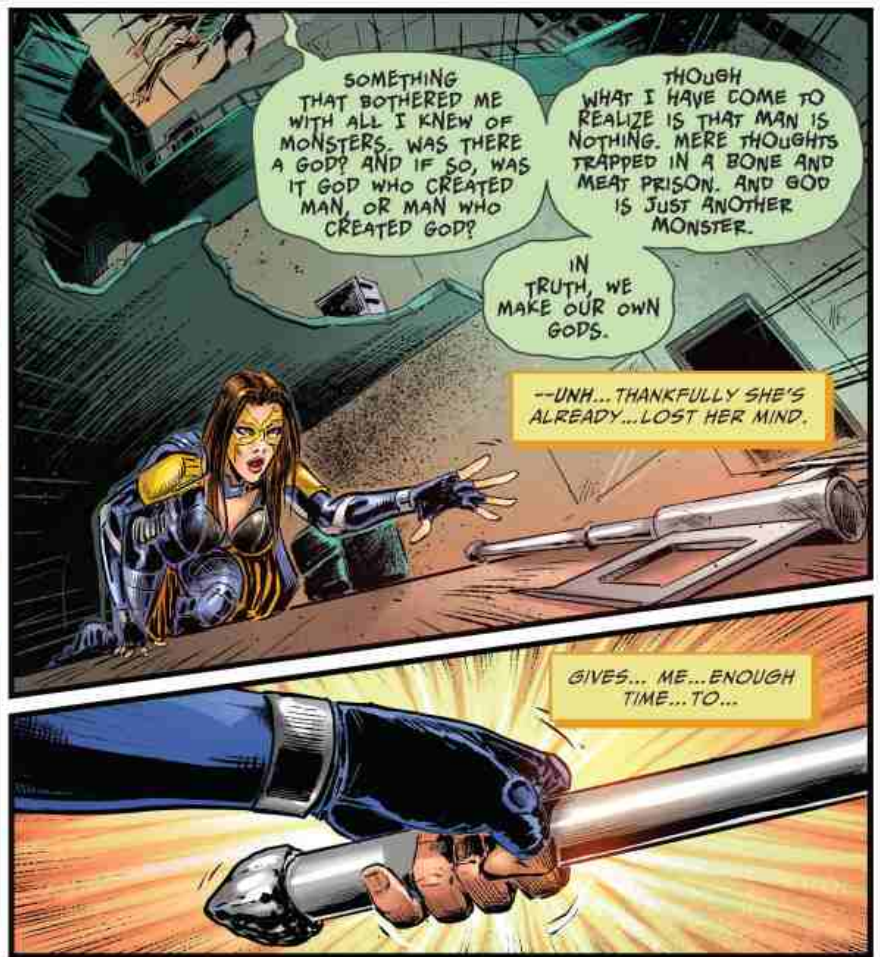


YOU KNOW, MS. DIMARCO, I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED SOMETHING.

OH, GREAT...

--UNFHH!

KRNK



SOMETHING THAT BOTHERED ME WITH ALL I KNEW OF MONSTERS. WAS THERE A GOD? AND IF SO, WAS IT GOD WHO CREATED MAN, OR MAN WHO CREATED GOD?

THOUGH WHAT I HAVE COME TO REALIZE IS THAT MAN IS NOTHING. MERE THOUGHTS TRAPPED IN A BONE AND MEAT PRISON. AND GOD IS JUST ANOTHER MONSTER.

IN TRUTH, WE MAKE OUR OWN GODS.

--UNH... THANKFULLY SHE'S ALREADY... LOST HER MIND.

GIVES... ME... ENOUGH TIME... TO...



SHUT HER UP--!

AND I AM YOURS.

--HTT--!



NO. THIS ISN'T HOW IT ENDS.

AND OH AM I A VENGEFUL GOD.

SO, I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN. ANY LAST WORDS?

BRUSH... BRFFHHH... YOUR TEETH...

HOW PITIFUL. I EXPECTED BETTER. GOODBYE.



GRAWW!



OH, THANK GOD. THOSE WERE TERRIBLE LAST WORDS. I REALLY NEED TO WORK ON THOSE IF I PLAN TO KEEP GETTING IN THESE SITUATIONS.

LET GO OF MY DAUGHTER, PATRICIA.

HRAAH!

THAT WAS A MISTAKE, JOSEPH.

IT WAS WORTH IT.





YEAH, THAT WAS A LITTLE DRAMATIC.

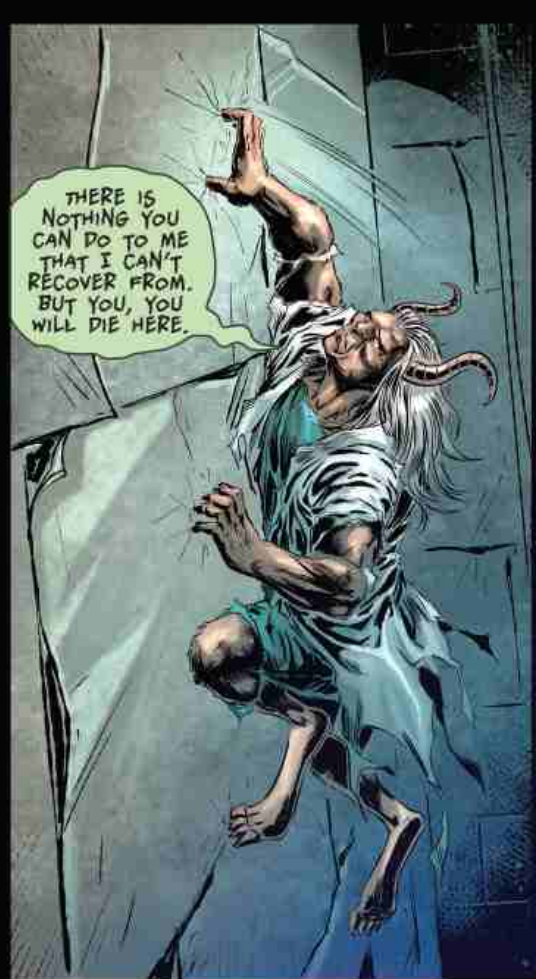
BUT I GUESS THOSE SURVIVAL INSTINCTS KICKED IN...

...FOR BOTH OF US.

YOU NEED TO TRY HARDER THAN THAT, GIRL.

I'M ON THE BRINK OF GODHOOD, AND YOU THINK KILLING ME WOULD BE THAT EASY.

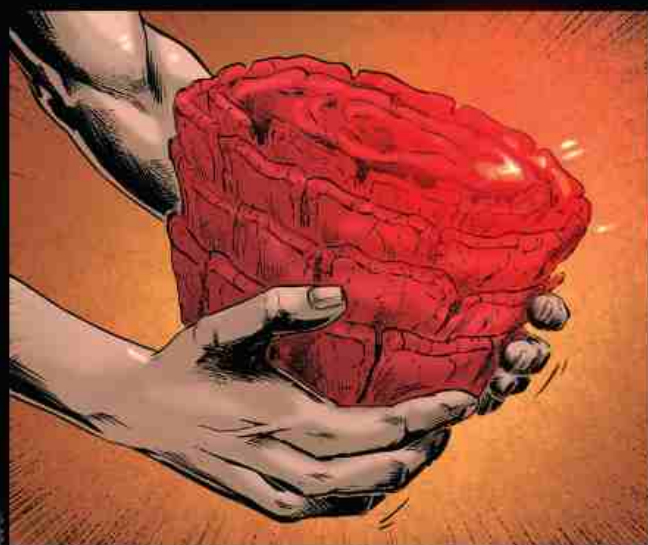
CAN'T YOU JUST SHUT UP? I JUST WANTED YOU TO STOP RAMBLING ON ABOUT BEING A GOD. KILLING YOU WAS THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK OF.



THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO ME THAT I CAN'T RECOVER FROM. BUT YOU, YOU WILL DIE HERE.



YOU HANG IN THERE. I'LL FIND SOMETHING, DON'T YOU WORRY.



BELLE... JUST...

...JUST PLEASE HOLD ON...

ALEX!?

IS THAT YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

FROM A FALLEN PETAL, TO A BLOOM OF ROSE...

...REMOVING LIGHT FROM WHICH WARM BLOOD FLOWS...



WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

NO!

...BONDED TO A SOUL...

...LIKE THORNS A STEM...



STOP!

I WILL NOT DIE ALONE.

YOU WILL COME WITH ME, ANABELLE!

ALEX, KEEP DOING WHATEVER IT IS YOU ARE DOING. SHE'S SCARED! IT'S WORKING!

...ENTWINED TOGETHER UNTIL THE END...

...A CURSE, AN OATH, MAN'S DARKEST ECHOES...

...MAY IT LIE IN THIS CASSET TO TAME ITS WRATH...



...UNTIL A SOUL WHILST CLAIM IT BACK.



NOOO!!--WISSSHH



...KILL YOU--

--UFHHH!

SSSHH



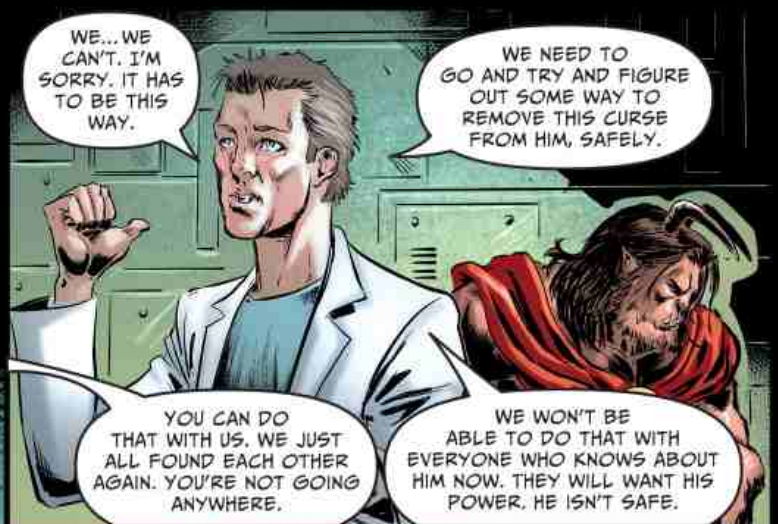
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GOOD RIDDANCE, YOU EVIL BITCH.



ALEX...NO...I'M SORRY THAT...

I'M... THANK YOU.





ANABELLE.
YOU KNOW IT
DOES. I'M
SORRY.

NO...
PLEASE...I
CAN'T DO
THIS
WITHOUT
YOU.

YES, YOU
CAN. AND YOU WON'T
BE ALONE.

YOU HAVE NO
IDEA HOW PROUD YOU
MAKE ME.

CANDL...
UNCLE
LOUIS...



I
LOVE
YOU.

I
LOVE YOU
TOO.

THIS ISN'T
GOODBYE.

THEN WHY DOES IT
FEEL LIKE IT?

A short time later...

Long Beach Island, NY

SO
WHAT
NOW?

FIRST, I
THINK I NEED TO
FIGURE OUT WHERE
WE ARE, THEN A
SHORT VACATION
AND BACK TO
WORK.

YOU
THINK YOU'LL
HAVE TIME FOR A
VACATION?



PROBABLY
NOT. BUT GOTTA STAY
POSITIVE RIGHT?

OY
VEY...



KA-THOOM!

YEAH,
POSITIVE, THAT'S THE
WORD. THIS BEAST
HUNTING TAKES A LOT
OUT OF YOU.

TELL
ME ABOUT
IT.

I GUESS
YOU'LL NEED ME
FULL-TIME NOW?

I WOULDN'T BE AGAINST
IT. PLUS, I WASN'T REALLY GOING TO
GIVE YOU A CHOICE.

WOULD
HAVE HAD TO TAKE
THE TURTLE
HOSTAGE.

HA! YEAH, JUST
PLEASE NO MORE
SITUATIONS PUTTING ME AND
HERSHEY IN DANGER.

I'LL TRY.
BUT I MAKE NO
PROMISES.

THAT'S
ALL I
ASK.

MEL.

YEAH?

THANKS
FOR STICKING
WITH ME.

**THE
END**

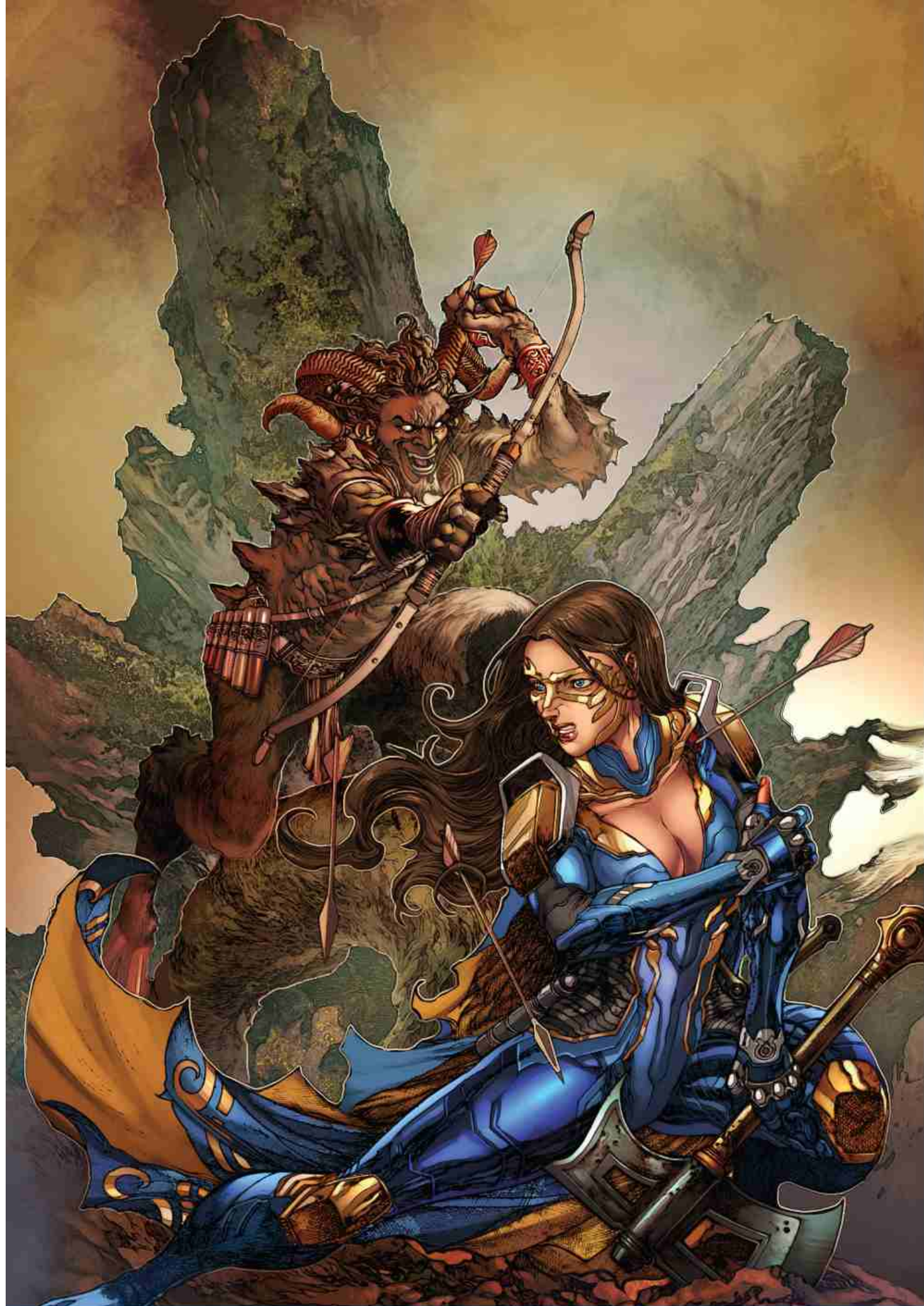
BELLE

OATH OF THORNS



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 1 • COVER A

Artwork by Igor Vitorino • Colors by Ivan Nunes

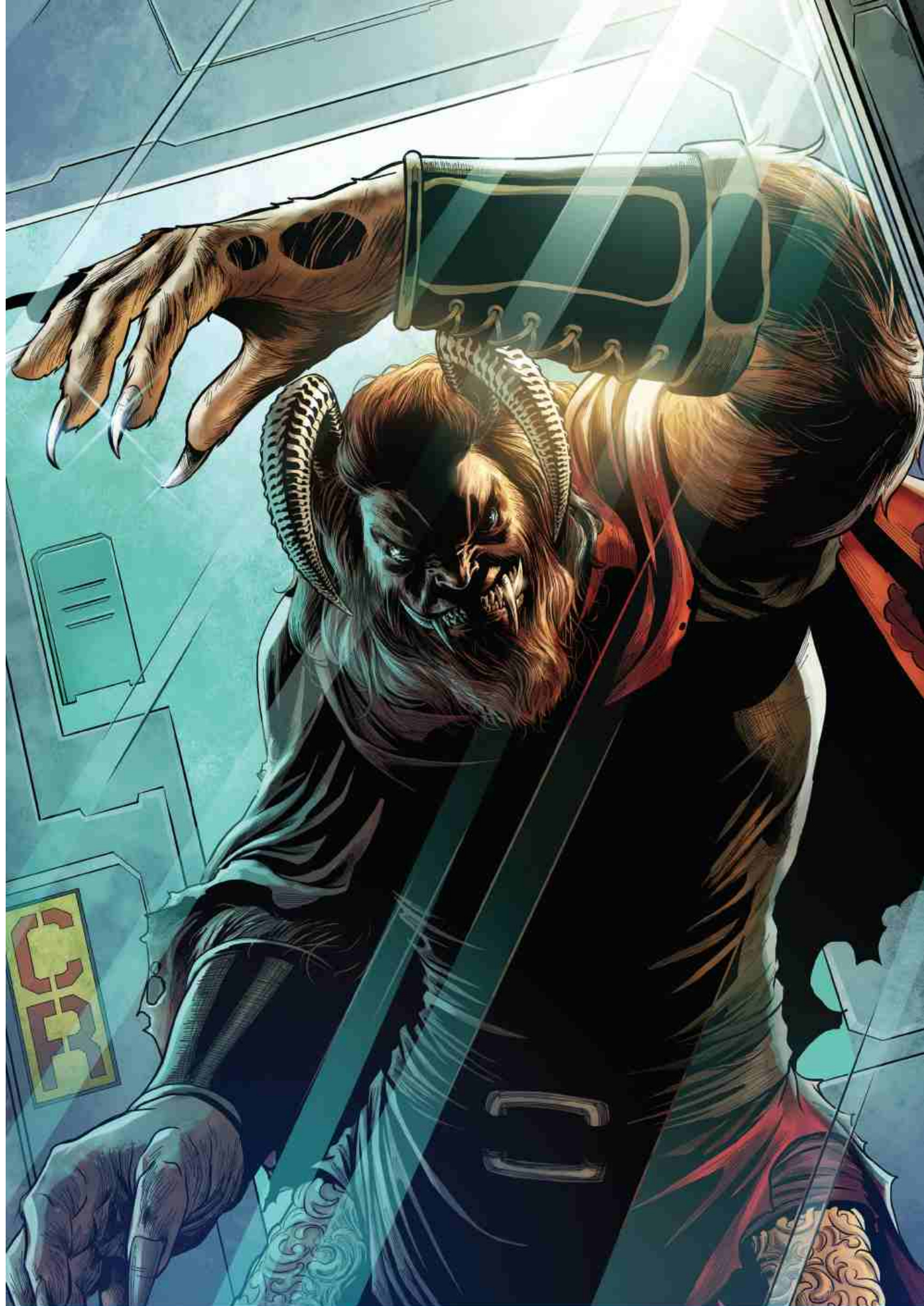


BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 1 • COVER B

Artwork by Harvey Tolibao • Colors by Ivan Nunes



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 1 • COVER C
Artwork by Derlis Santacruz • Colors by Ula Mos



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 1 • COVER D

Artwork by Martin Cocco • Colors by Mohan Sivakami



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 1 • COVER E

Artwork by Leonardo Colapietro



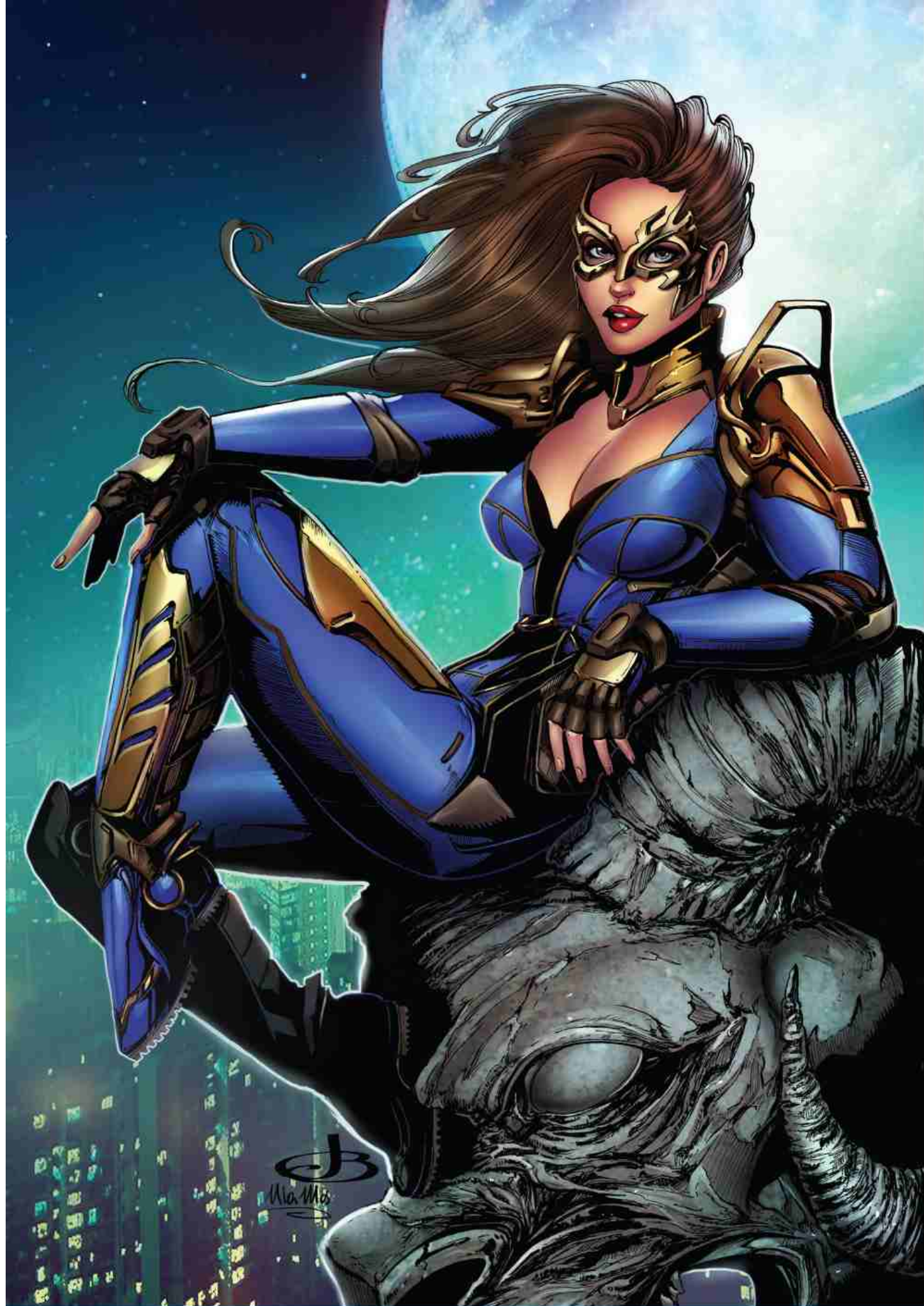
BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 2 • COVER A

Artwork by Martin Caccolo • Colors by Ivan Nunes



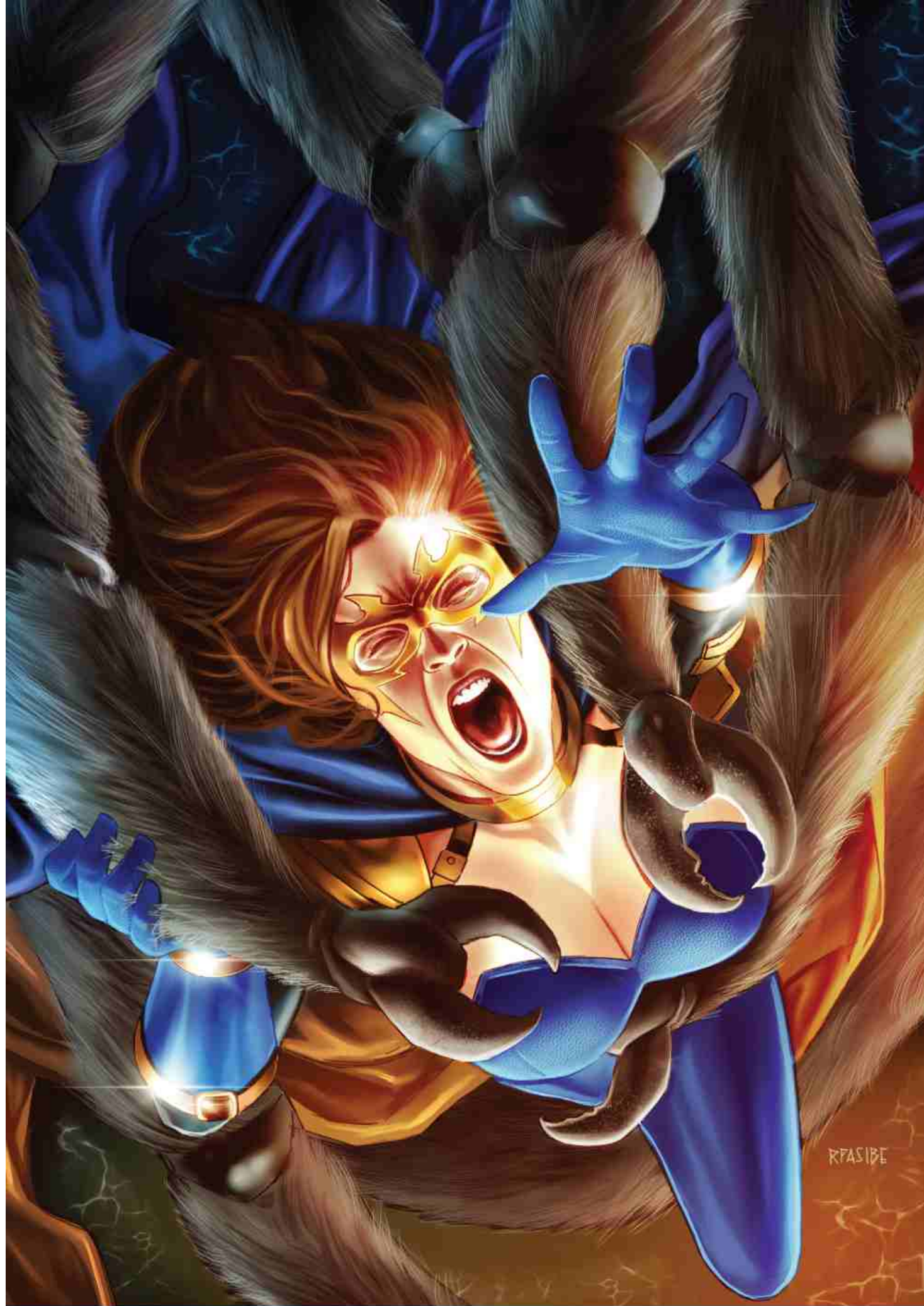
BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 2 • COVER B

Artwork by Igor Vitorino • Colors by Vinicius Andrade



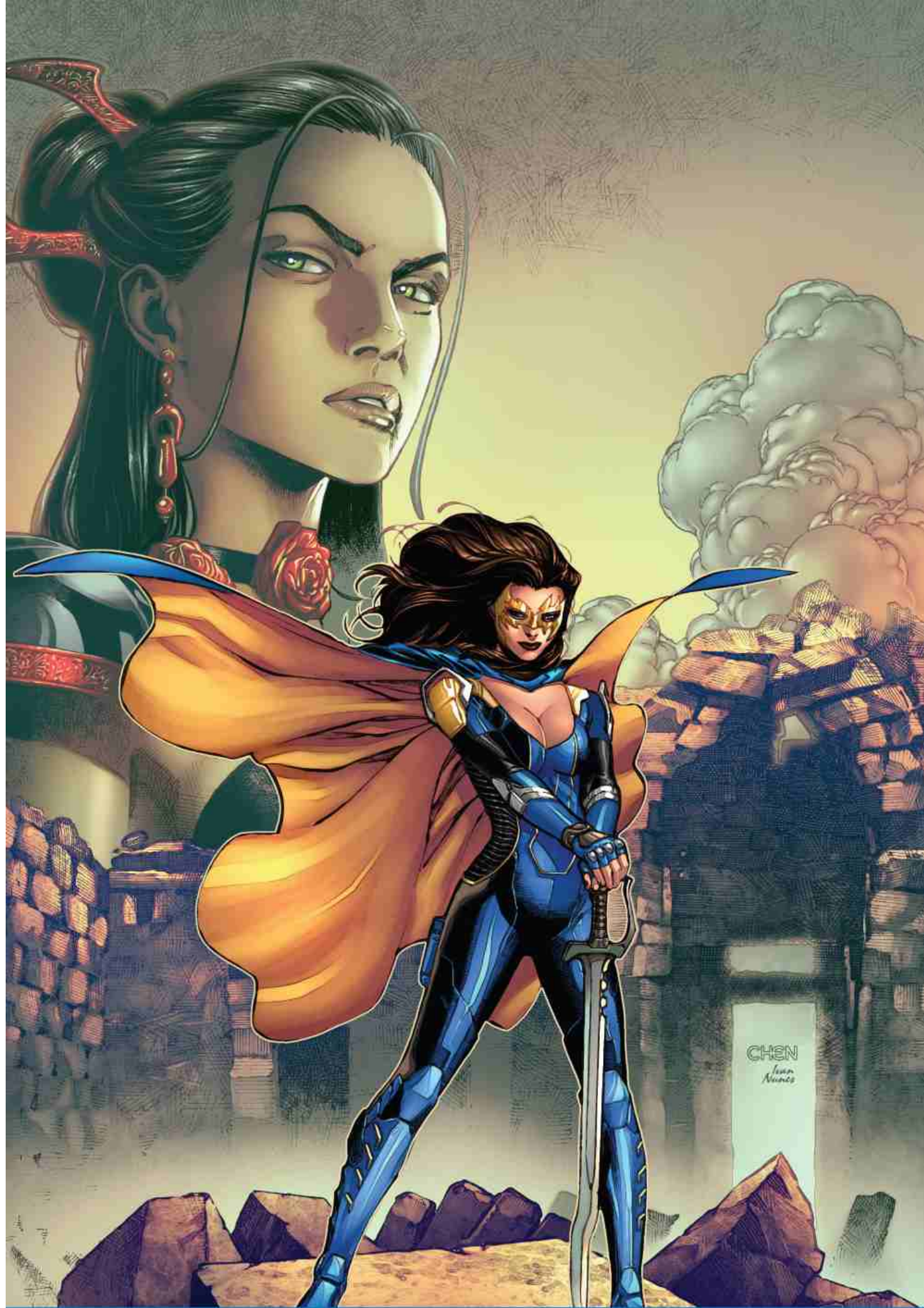
BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 2 • COVER C

Artwork by Jenevieve Broomall • Colors by Ula Mos



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 2 • COVER D

Artwork by Ryan Pasibe • Colors by Mohan Sivakami



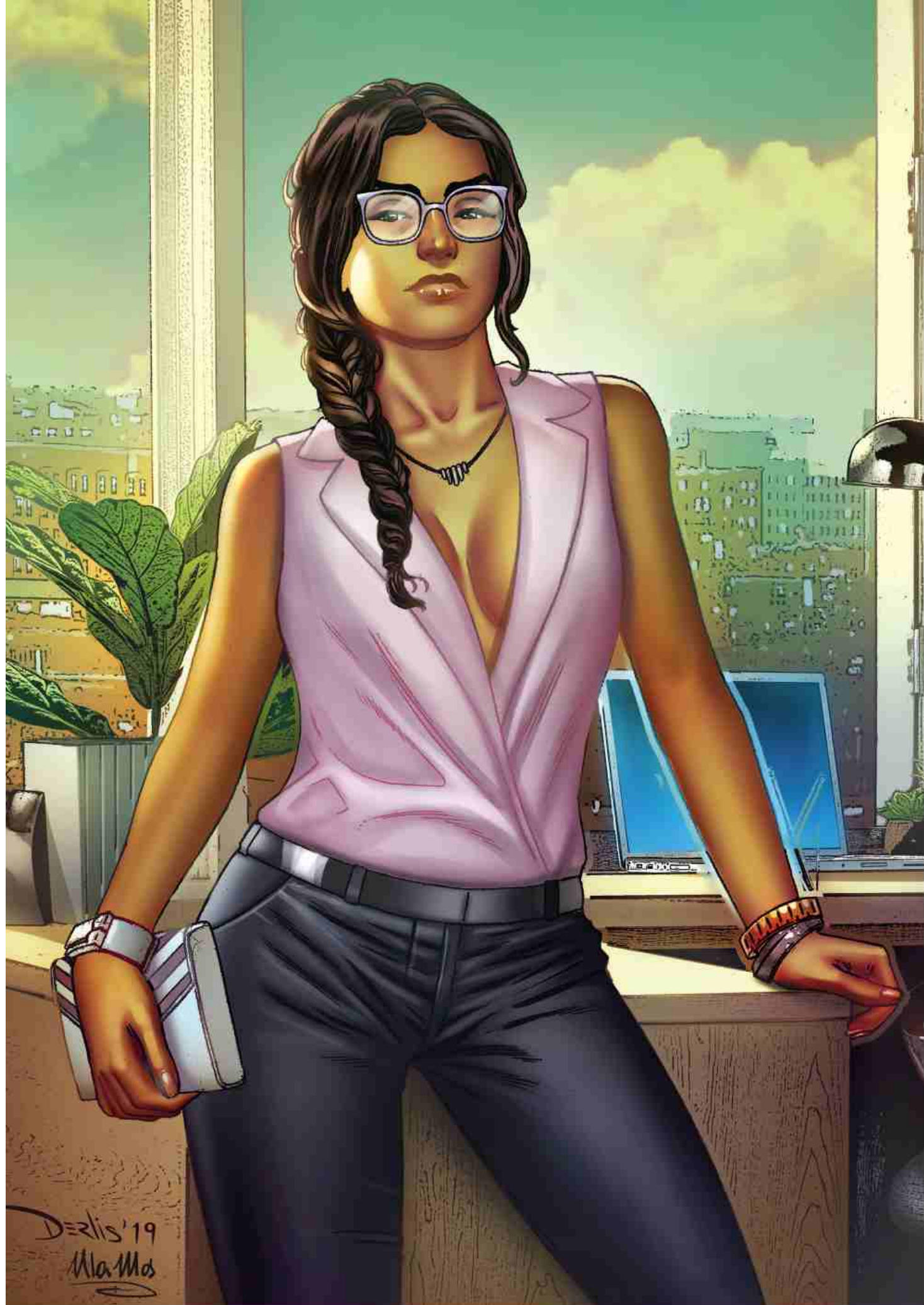
BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 3 • COVER A

Artwork by Sean Chen • Colors by Ivan Nunes



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 3 • COVER B

Artwork by Jason Metcalf • Colors by Grostieta



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 3 • COVER C

Artwork by Derlis Santacruz • Colors by Ula Mos



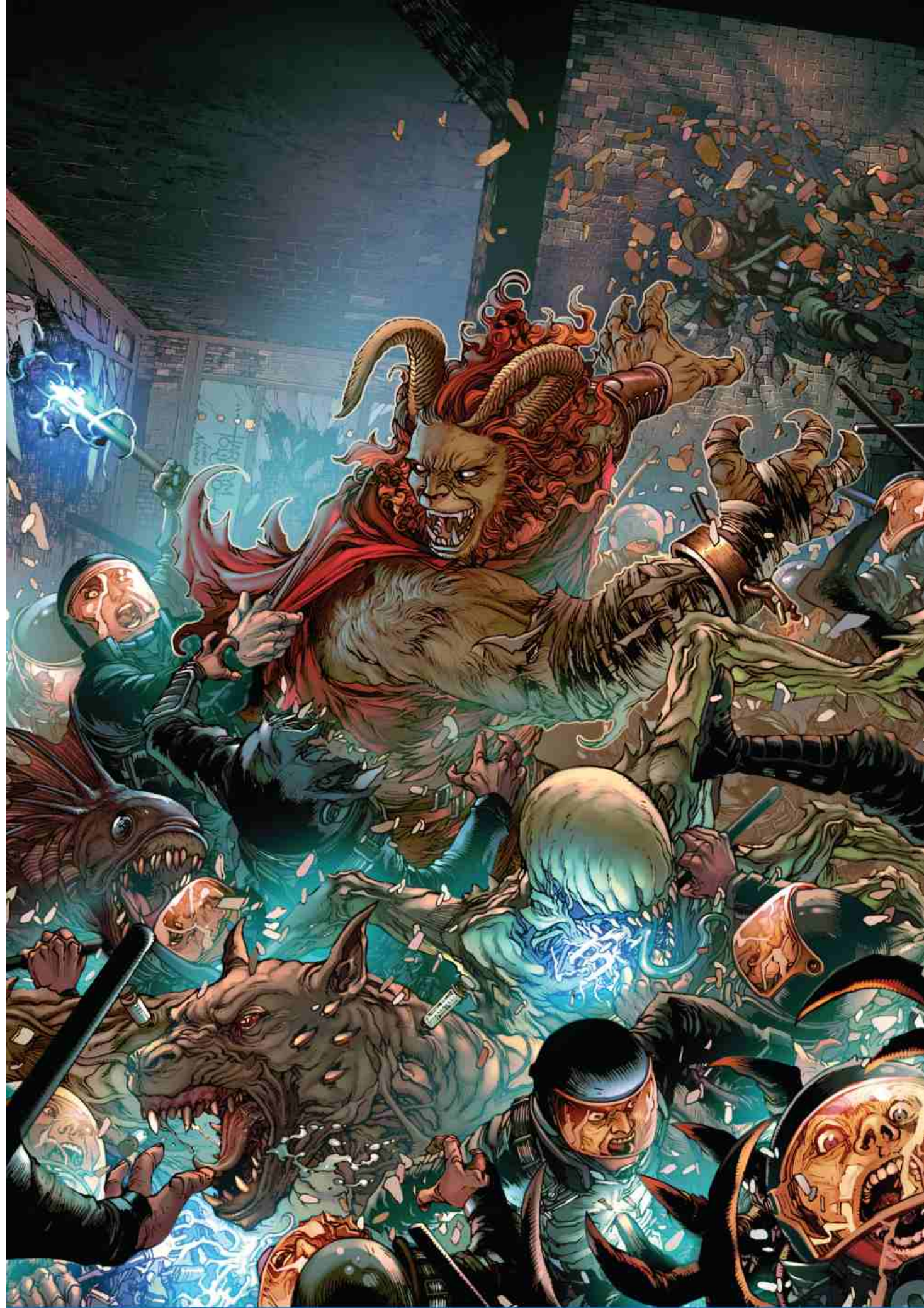
BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 3 • COVER D

Artwork by Geebo Vigonte • Colors by Ivan Nunes



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 4 • COVER A

Artwork by Drew Edward Johnson • Colors by Mohan Sivakami



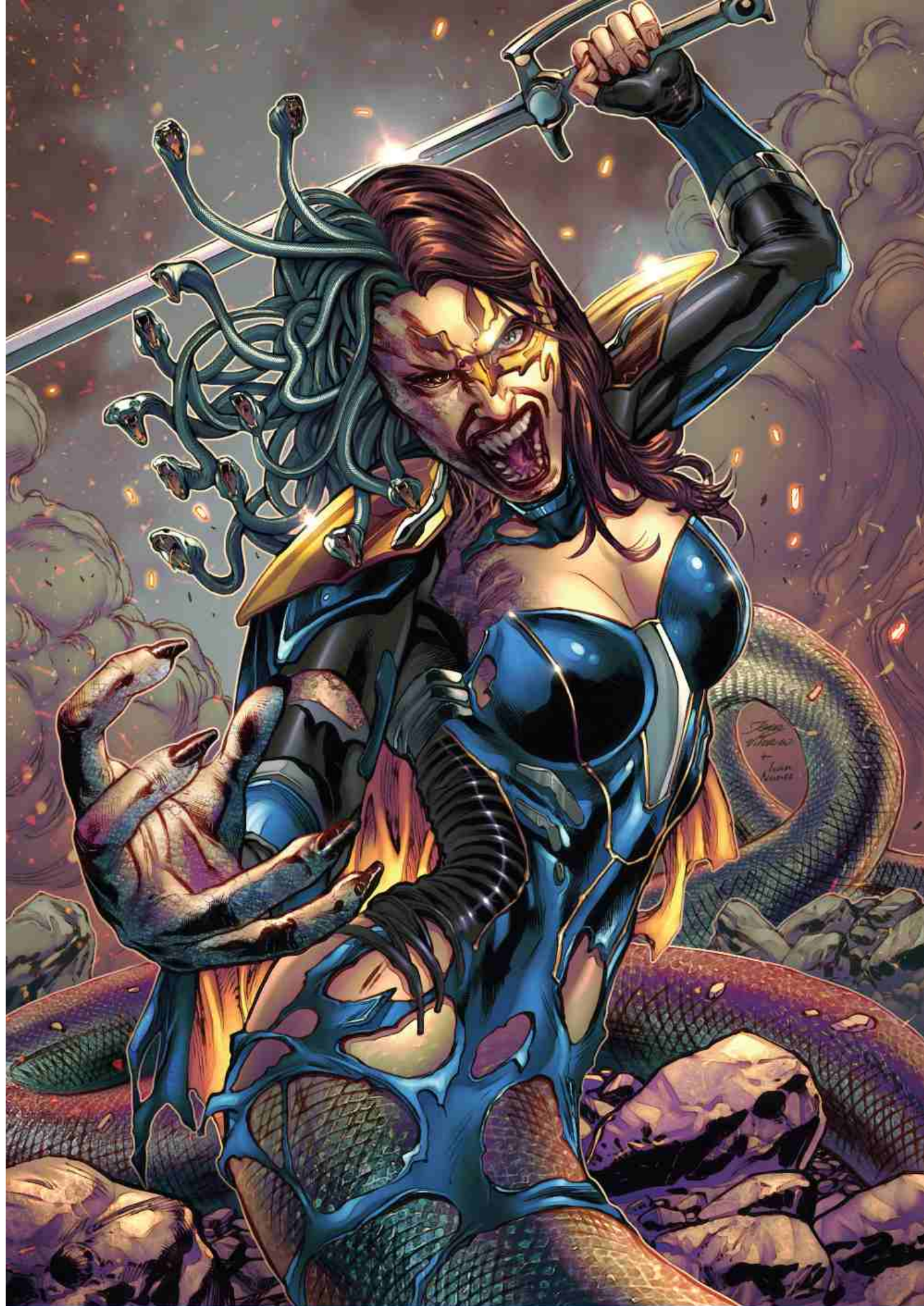
BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 4 • COVER B

Artwork by Harvey Tolibao • Colors by Ivan Nunes



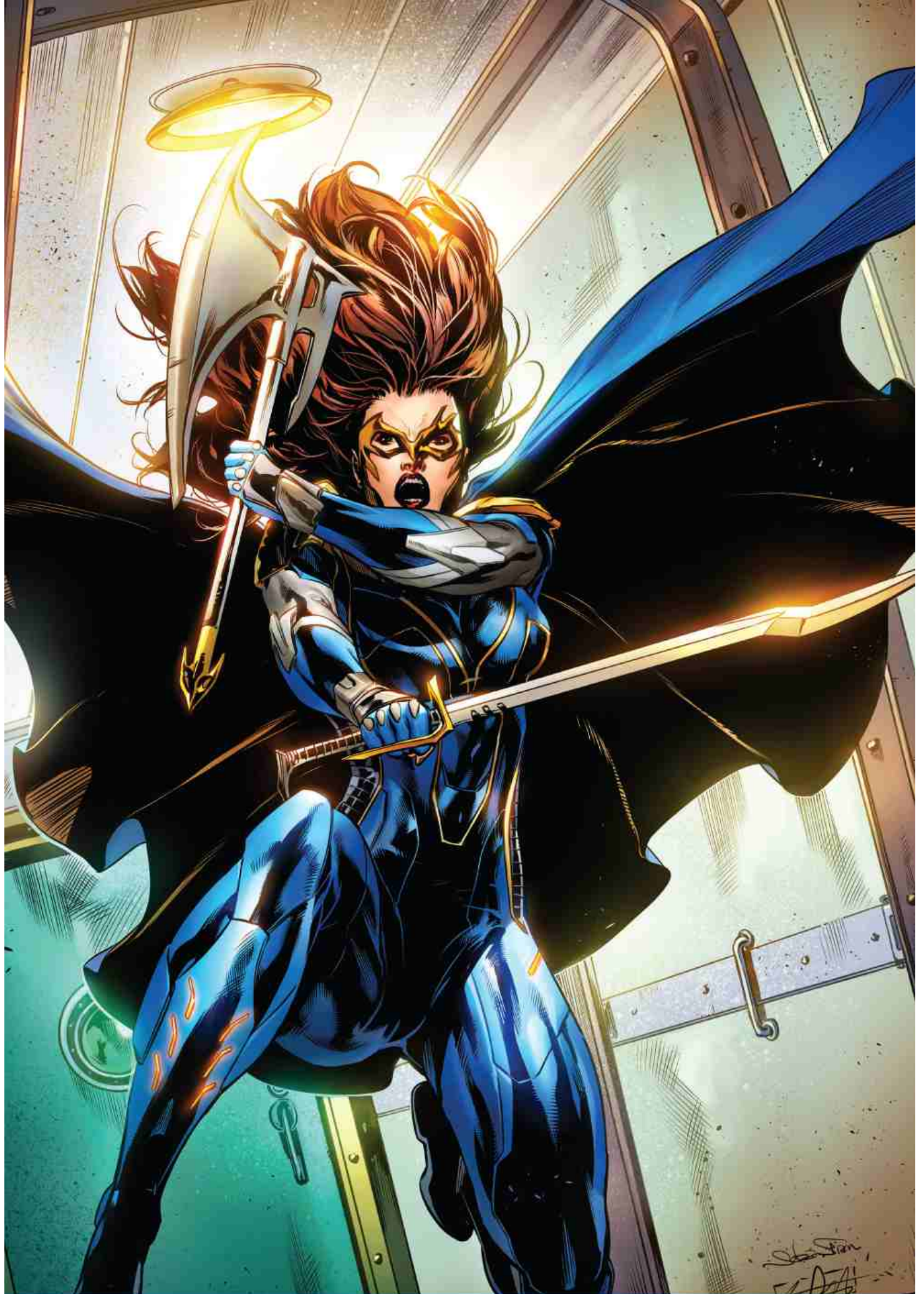
BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 4 • COVER C

Artwork by John Royle • Inks by Jagdish Kumar • Colors by Sebastian Cheng



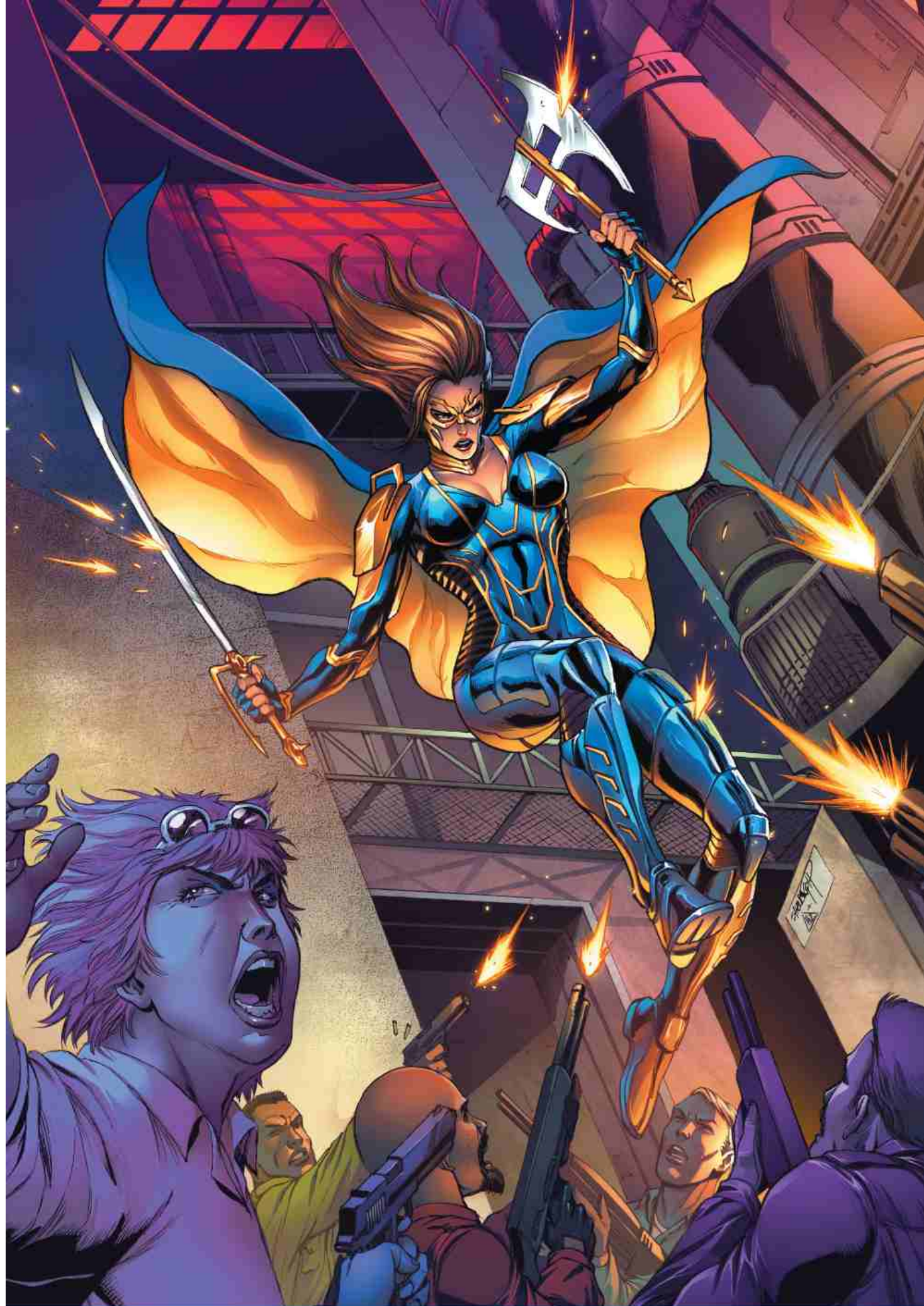
BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 4 • COVER D

Artwork by Igor Vitorino • Colors by Ivan Nunes



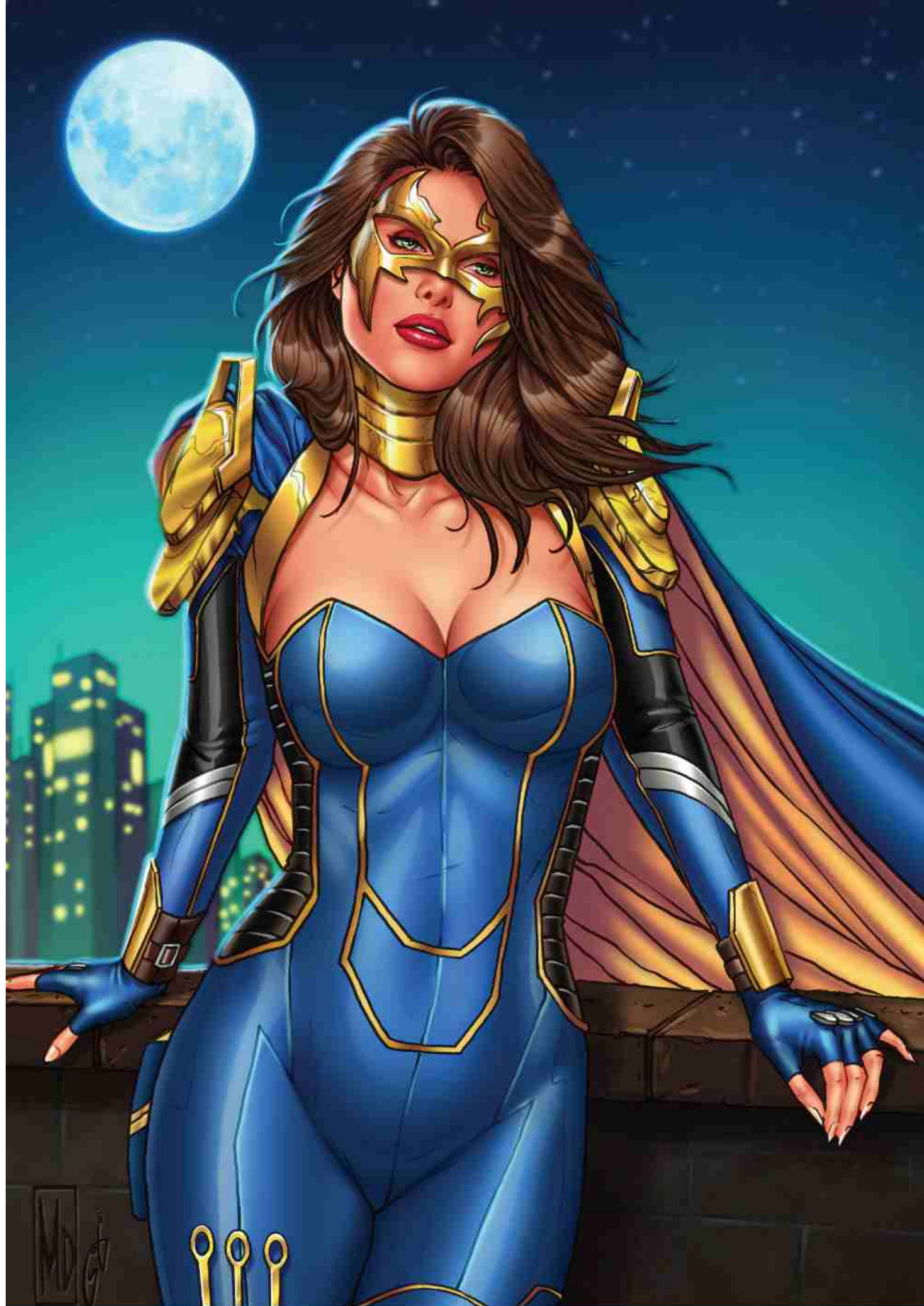
BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 5 • COVER A

Artwork by Caanan White • Colors by Sebastian Cheng



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 5 • COVER B

Artwork by Sheldon Goh • Colors by Hedwin Zaldivar



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 5 • COVER C

Artwork by Michael DiPascale • Colors by Sanju Nivangune



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 5 • COVER D

Artwork by Igor Vitorino • Colors by Ivan Nunes



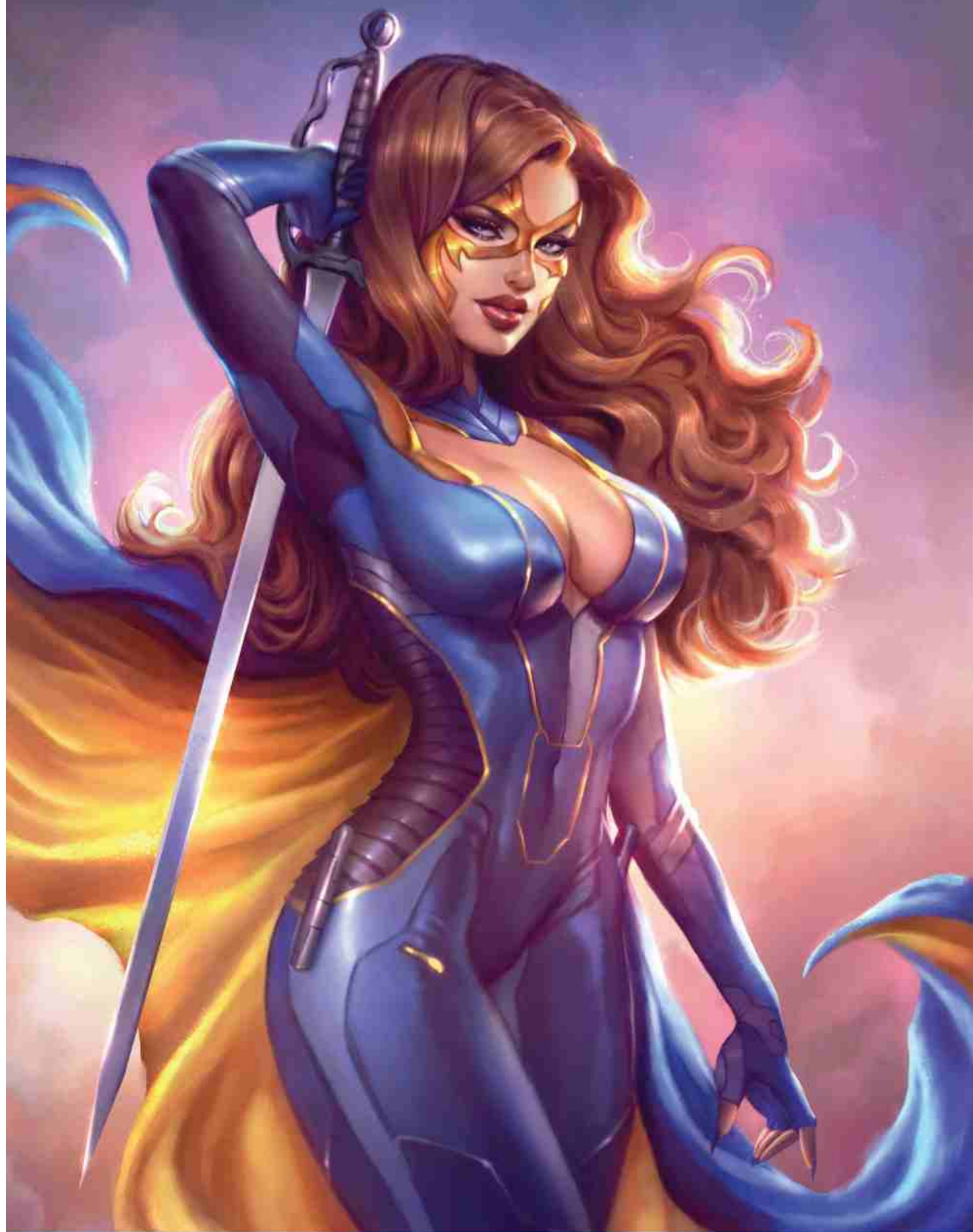
BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 6 • COVER A

Artwork by Igor Vitorino • Colors by Ivan Nunes



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 6 • COVER B

Artwork by Caanan White • Colors by Mohan Sivakami



BELLE: OATH OF THORNS 6 • COVER C

Artwork by Sun Khamunaki



BELLE: DATH OF THORNS 6 • COVER D

Artwork by Harvey Tolibao • Colors by Ivan Nunes

BELLE

OATH OF THORNS



D.R. & QUINCH



(COVERS APRIL)

K6



NW